Promotion of handlooms and handicrafts in **Punjab**

2168. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

whether Government of Punjab has proposed any scheme to Government for the promotion of handlooms and handicrafts in the State;

if so, the details thereof and by when centre's approval is likely to be accorded; and

the nature and extent of central assistance for the implementation of the schemes to be provided during 2007-08 and 2008-09?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Problems of Weavers/Artisans

2169. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA; Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

the details of problems of weavers and artisans;

how Government propose to solve these problems; and

whether Government proposes to set up a monitoring machinery to ensure proper implementation of various schemes/programmes for weavers and artisans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) The Handloom and handicraft Sectors are unorganized in nature. Hence, weavers and artisans are facing many problems such as lack of infrastructure! facilities; lack of working capital; inadequacy of resources, raw materials and other linkages; production and design related bottlenecks; organizational constraints low level of investments etc. In addition to these handloom weavers are also facing stiff competition from cheap powerloom products.

The Government of India is implementing 5 Schemes for promotion and development of Handloom Sector which includes (1) Integrated Handloom Development Scheme; (2) Marketing and Export Promotion Scheme; (3) Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme; (4) Mill Gate Price Scheme; and (5) Diversified Handloom Development Scheme. For the Handicraft Sector, Government is implementing 6 Schemes which include (1) Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Viaks Yoajana; (2) Handicraft Artisans Comprehensive Welfare Scheme; (3) Marketing Support & Service Scheme; (4) Design & Technology Upgradation Scheme (5) Human Resource Development Scheme; and (6) Research & Development Scheme.

The handloom related schemes are being implemented by the Government of India with the help of the State Government/agencies. The schemes are being monitored regularly through the Directorate-in-Charge of Handlooms of the respective States and the Office of

the Development Commissioner for Handldoms. In case of Handicraft Sector, Government has already put in place a monitoring system wehereby, officers from the field formations regularly inspect and supervise the schemes under implementation. Schemes are also being monitored in the weekly Senior Officers' Meeting of the Ministry of Textiles and also by the Planning Commission.

Slow or negative growth In the textile cloth mill sector

2170. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

whether the mill sector continue to show negative or slow growth in textile cloth production;

if so, the details of the cloth produced by mill sector during each of the last three years, State-wise;

the reasons for slow/negative growth of the mill sector; and

the steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The State-wise production of cloth by mill sector (including exclusive weaving mills) during each of the last three years is furnished in the following Table:—

(Million square meter)

SI.N). Name of State/Union	ry	2004-05	2005-86	2006-07 5
1 Terrto 2	3		4	
1. Gujarat		468.94	516.40	540.39
2. Karnataka		3.78	4.80	4.49
3. Kerala		2.79	2.80	2.79
4. Haryana		44.35	40.90	63.02
5. Madhya Pradesh		41.17	40.20	60.58
6. Maharashtra		393.30	401.30	291.89
7. Punjab		146.47	173.10	209.25
8. Rajasthan		111.61	113.20	174.77
9. Tamil Nadu		104.09	119.70	127.90
10. Uttar Pradesh		28.96	28.90	25.17
11. West Bengal		3.43	4.20	4.17
12. Pondicherry		28.76	22.90	21.99